

Jefferson County Southeast Travel Management Plan (04-02-2014)

September 9, 2015

DECISION RECORD SUMMARY – DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2013-18-EA

Exhibit 18

DECISION

It is my decision to approve the *Jefferson County Southeast Travel Management Plan*, as described in the Preferred Alternative (Alternative C) and Appendix B of the *Jefferson County Southeast Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2013-18)*. The table below provides a summary of the final travel route designations made in this Travel Management Plan.

Existing Travel Routes	Route Types	Travel Route Designations				
Open to all uses	Route Classification	Open to all uses	Limited by Season Various Restrictions to Wheeled Motorized Vehicles	Limited to Administrative, Authorized & Non-Motorized uses Closed Yearlong to all other Wheeled Motorized Vehicles	Closed and Decommission	Totals
16 routes 13.3 miles	Roads	9 routes 11.1 miles	0 0	7 routes 2.2 miles	0 0	16 routes 13.3 miles
115 routes 52.8 miles	Primitive Roads	73 routes 37.4 miles	12 routes 4.9 miles	9 routes 7.2 miles	21 routes 3.3 miles	115 routes 52.8 miles
5 routes niles	Trails	0 0	2 routes 1.5 miles	0 0	3 routes .1 miles	5 routes 1.6 miles
136 routes 67.7 miles	TOTALS	82 routes 48.5 miles	14 routes 6.4 miles	16 routes 9.4 miles	24 routes 3.4 miles	136 routes 67.7 miles

In addition to the route designations described in the table above, the following applies:

Over Snow Vehicle Use

Under this plan, between December 2 and May 15, with snow levels permitting, cross-country Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) travel would be allowed. However, the BLM recommends that OSV riders drive/ride on designated routes for their safety and to safeguard resources. It is the rider's responsibility to avoid locations where wind or topographic conditions may have reduced snow depth and created situations where damage to vegetation or soils could occur, or where vegetation is taller than the protective snow cover. Ecologically sensitive areas could be closed to snowmobiling if resource damage caused or exacerbated by snowmobile activity is found to be occurring in these areas.

Non-Motorized Use

Under this Plan, people would be allowed to walk or ride horses anywhere on public lands unless an area is closed for safety or specific resource protection (example: a historical site). Mountain biking would be limited to all designated routes in the travel network, except on routes scheduled to be "Closed and Decommissioned" or signed otherwise. Cross-country mountain bike use would not be allowed. All non-motorized users should understand that if a route is designated as "Closed and Decommissioned" it would not be maintained and could be rehabilitated, abolishing all physical evidence of the route.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A total of 90 comments were received for this EA. 42 of which were related to the TMP and focused on:

- (1) 25 comments supported keeping existing routes open and creating new routes for motorized uses
- (2) 3 comments supported closing routes to motorized uses
- (3) 7 comments were related to one or two specific travel routes, mostly in support of keeping them open
- (4) 7 comments were outside the scope of this TMP
- (5) In addition, many comments related to the Doherty mountain bike trail system were received, mostly in support

Missouri River Foothills Travel Management Plan (09-03-2015)

DECISION RECORD SUMMARY – DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2015-11-EA

DECISION

It is my decision to approve the travel route designations described in Alternative C (Preferred) of the Missouri River Foothills Travel Management Plan (TMP) and Environmental Assessment (*DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2015-0011*). The table below provides a summary of these designations. A map of these designations is available for review at http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/butte_field_office.html.

Existing Travel Routes	Route Types	Final Travel Route Designations				
		Open to all uses	Limited by Season Closed to Wheeled Motorized Vehicles Dec 2 – May 30	Limited to Administrative, Authorized & Non-Motorized uses Closed Yearlong to all other Wheeled Motorized Vehicles	Closed and Decommission	Totals
3 routes 2.56 miles	Roads	3 routes 2.56 miles	0 routes 0 miles	0 routes 0 miles	0 routes 0 miles	3 routes 2.56 miles
32 routes 13.43 miles	Primitive Roads	10 routes 3.45 miles	3 routes 3.22 miles	9 routes 4.11 miles	10 routes 2.65 miles	32 routes 13.43 miles
1 route 0.33 miles	Trails	0 route 0 miles	0 routes 0 miles	1 route 0.33 miles	0 routes 0 miles	1 route 0.33 miles
36 Routes 16.32 Miles		13 routes 6.01 miles	3 routes 3.22 miles	10 routes 4.44 miles	10 routes 2.65 miles	36 routes 16.32 miles

In addition to the route designations described in the table above, the following applies:

Over Snow Vehicle Use

Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) use is allowed on travel routes designated as “Open to all uses”, but only during the period between December 2 and May 30 each year. No cross-country OSV travel is allowed.

Exceptions to these designations are listed in Section 2.4.1 of the TMP/EA.

Non-Motorized Use

Under this Travel Management Plan, people are allowed to walk or ride horses anywhere on public lands unless an area is closed for safety or specific resource protection (example: a historical site). Mountain biking is allowed on all designated routes in the travel network, except those scheduled to be “Closed and Decommissioned” or signed otherwise. Cross-country mountain bike use is not allowed anywhere in the area. All non-motorized users should understand that if a route is designated as “Closed and Decommissioned” it will not be maintained and could be rehabilitated at any time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A total of 3 public comments were received for this TMP, focused on:

- 1) Noxious weed management
- 2) Rock climber opposed to any increase in motorized use
- 3) Motorcycle (dirt bike rider) opposed to any further restrictions on motorized use

Iron Mask Travel Management Plan (07-01-2015)

DECISION RECORD SUMMARY – DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2013-19

DECISION

It is my decision to approve the *Iron Mask Travel Management Plan*, as described in the Preferred Alternative (Alternative B) of the *Iron Mask Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-MT-B070-2013-19-EA)*. Specifically, the temporary closure of routes in the Iron Mask acquisition area to wheeled motorized use by the general public will become permanent for the majority of the area, with a few minor exceptions. The table below provides a summary of the final route designations made in this Travel Management Plan.

Existing Travel Routes	Route Types	Travel Route Designations				
All Under Temporary Closure Except 1 road	Route Classification	Open to all uses	Limited by Season Closed to Wheeled Motorized Vehicles Dec 2 - May 15	Limited to Administrative, Authorized & Non-Motorized uses Closed Yearlong to all other Wheeled Motorized Vehicles	Closed and Decommission	Totals
1 route 0.1 miles	Roads	1 route 0.1 miles	0 route 0 miles	0 routes 0 miles	0 0	1 route 0.1 miles
23 routes 19.2 miles	Primitive Roads	0 routes 0 miles	1 route 0.5 miles	22 routes 18.7 miles	0 routes 0 miles	23 routes 19.2 miles
0 routes 0 miles	Trails	0 0	0 routes 0 miles	0 0	0 routes 0 miles	0 routes 0 miles
24 Routes 19.3 Miles		1 route 0.1 miles	1 route 0.5 miles	22 routes 18.7 miles	0 routes 0 miles	24 routes 19.3 miles

In addition to the route designations described in the table above, the following apply:

Over Snow Vehicle Use

In order to conform to RMP direction of promoting non-motorized recreation opportunities and enhancing the area for wildlife, and given the general lack of adequate snow cover in the area, the current closure to motorized Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) travel will remain in effect for the Iron Mask Decision Area west of Highway 287.

Non-Motorized Use

Under this Travel Plan, people will be allowed to walk or ride horses anywhere on public lands unless an area is closed for safety or specific resource protection (example: a historical site). Mountain biking will be allowed, but will be limited to existing routes in the travel network, including those designated as "Limited to Administrative, Authorized and Non-Motorized Uses." Cross-country mountain bike use is not allowed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A total of 12 public comments were received for this EA, 7 of which directly related to the TMP, focused on:

- 1) Wildlife habitat – no new roads, close existing roads or keep to a minimum and need for LE patrols
- 2) Convert roads to trails and allocate at least 50% of those routes for OHV use
- 3) Did not support opening the road from Indian Creek to Kimber Gulch to wheeled motorized vehicles
- 4) Roads open for administrative use should have proper soil drainage, the rest should be decommissioned
- 5) Trailhead location recommendations
- 6) Recommendations on information to be displayed at trailheads
- 7) Trailheads should be large enough to accommodate for horse trailers (including turn around space)